

Claims

1. A method for announcing transport streams that a digital broadcast network is adapted to transmit, the method comprising the steps of:

5 establishing at least one service information table for enabling a end user terminal to obtain the transport streams,

splitting the at least one service information table into sub-tables, wherein each sub-table identifies a certain transport stream, and

10 establishing a mother table for maintaining a sub-table of the certain transport stream and sub-tables of adjacent transport streams of the certain transport stream.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the sub-table comprises a for loop of the at least one service information table.

3. A method according to claim 2, wherein the for loop comprises a section of the at least one service information table.

15 4. A method according to claim 2, wherein the for loop comprises a cycle or for loops of the at least one service information table.

5. A method according to claim 2, wherein the for loop comprises a transport stream identifier for uniquely identifying the certain transport stream of the sub-table.

20 6. A method according to claim 1, wherein at least one headend equipment for a cell of the digital broadcast network performs the step of splitting.

7. A method according to claim 6, wherein an operator runs the at least one headend.

25 8. A method according to claim 1, wherein at least one the service information table comprises a Bouquet Association Table.

9. A method according to claim 1, further comprising building a local table based on the sub-table of the certain transport stream.

10. A method according to claim 1, wherein the mother table identifies an amount of the sub-tables.

11. A method according to claim 1, wherein the mother table identifies an updating of the sub-table.
12. A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of updating the adjacent transport streams periodically about the sub-table.
- 5 13. A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of re-transmitting the sub-table to the adjacent transport streams.
14. A method according to claim 13, wherein the step of re-transmitting comprises individual re-transmitting.
- 10 15. A method according to claim 13, wherein the step of re-transmitting comprises periodic re-transmitting.
16. A method according to claim 13, wherein the sub-table is adapted to be re-transmitted without any further modification of the sub-table.
17. A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of performing a handover function for the transport streams when a mobile end user terminal is moving from a cell of the certain transport stream to any adjacent transport stream.
- 15 18. A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of performing a roaming function for the transport streams when a mobile end user terminal is moving from a cell of the certain transport stream to any adjacent transport stream.
19. A method according to claim 1, wherein the certain transport stream comprises a local transport stream of a cell of the digital broadcast network.
- 20 20. A method according to claim 1, wherein the transport streams comprise MPEG transport streams.
21. A method according to claim 1, wherein the transport stream comprises transmission according to Digital Video Broadcasting.
- 25 22. A method according to claim 1, wherein the transport stream comprises a terrestrial digital video broadcasting (DVB-T).
23. A method according to claim 1, wherein the transport stream comprises multicast.
24. A method according to claim 1, wherein the transport stream comprises uni-

cast.

25. A method for obtaining a service within broadcast transport streams, the method comprising:

5 establishing service information for enabling at least one end user terminal to obtain the transport streams, and

establishing a local table announcing at least one local transport stream containing the service, wherein the local table is adapted to be delivered to the at least one end user terminal and the local table is adapted to identify the at least one local transport stream for an announcement to adjacent transport streams.

10 26. A method for advertising a local transport stream which is adapted to be transmitted within a broadcast transmission network, the method comprising the steps of:

establishing service information tables for enabling a end user terminal to obtain transport streams,

15 splitting a certain service information table into sub-tables, wherein each sub-table identifies coincident local transport stream and adjacent transport streams of the coincident local transport stream, and

distributing the sub-tables to an adjacent service provider of the coincident local transport stream.

20 27. A method for announcing a service delivered within a transport stream of a cell that a broadcast network is adapted to transmit, the method comprising:

establishing service information for guiding a end user terminal to discover transport streams, and

25 splitting the service information into sub-tables, wherein each sub-table identifies the transport stream of the cell and transport streams of neighbouring cells of the transport stream.

28. A method for receiving a transport stream that a digital broadcast network is adapted to transmit, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a broadcast transmission, and

means for discovering a mother table from the broadcast transmission, the mother table announcing a set of sub-tables each sub-table identifying a local transport stream, wherein the transport streams indicated in the mother table comprise adjacent transport streams to each other.

- 5 29. A end user terminal for obtaining a transport stream that a digital broadcast network is adapted to transmit, the receiver comprising:

means for receiving a broadcast transmission, and

- 10 means for discovering a mother table from the broadcast transmission, the mother table announcing a set of sub-tables each sub-table identifying a local transport stream, wherein the transport streams indicated in the mother table comprise adjacent transport streams to each other.

30. A end user terminal according to claim 29, further comprising means for interaction with a service provider providing the transport stream.

- 15 31. A end user terminal according to claim 29, wherein the receiver comprises a wireless receiver for receiving the transport stream.

32. A end user terminal according to claim 29, wherein the end user terminal comprises a broadcast cellular mobile end user terminal.

33. A system for delivering broadcast transport streams delivering services, the system comprising:

- 20 headends for splitting a service information table into sub-tables and for establishing a mother table, wherein each sub-table identifies a transport stream of a coincident headend, and wherein the mother table identifies the transport stream of the coincident headend and transport streams of adjacent headends to the coincident headend, and

- 25 at least one end user terminal for obtaining the broadcast transport streams.

34. A system according to claim 33, wherein the broadcast transport streams comprises transmission according to Digital Video Broadcasting (DVB).

- 30 35. A system according to claim 33, wherein the broadcast transport streams comprises a terrestrial digital video broadcasting (DVB-T).

36. A system according to claim 33, wherein the broadcast transport stream comprises multicast.

37. A system according to claim 33, wherein the broadcast transport stream comprises unicast.

5 38. A system according to claim 33, wherein the at least one end user terminal comprises a wireless broadcast receiver.

39. A system according to claim 33, wherein the headends comprise cells of a cellular broadcast network and the at least one end user terminal comprise a mobile cellular digital broadcast end user terminal.

10 40. A transmitter for delivering broadcast transport streams delivering services, the transmitter comprising:

means for establishing at least one service information table for enabling a end user terminal to obtain the transport streams,

15 means for splitting the at least one service information table into sub-tables and for establishing a mother table, wherein each sub-table identifies a transport stream of a coincident headend, and wherein the mother table identifies the transport stream of the coincident headend and transport streams of adjacent headends to the coincident headend.

20 41. A computer program product comprising a program of instructions executable by a computing system for processing an announcement of transport streams that a digital broadcast network is adapted to transmit, the computer program product comprising:

25 computer program code for causing the system to establish at least one service information table for enabling a end user terminal to obtain the transport streams,

computer program code for causing the system to split the at least one service information table into sub-tables, wherein each sub-table identifies a certain transport stream, and

30 computer program code for causing the system to establish a mother table for maintaining a sub-table of the certain transport stream and sub-tables of adjacent transport streams of the certain transport stream.